

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An amorphous silica particle having a maximum value of $\Delta V_p/\Delta R_p$ of 20 mm³/nm·g⁻¹ or more in a pore distribution curve obtained by a benzene adsorption isotherm, wherein V_p is a pore volume [mm³/g] and R_p is a pore radius [nm]; and a pore peak radius of from 20 nm to 100 nm when the $\Delta V_p/\Delta R_p$ value is maximum, and an oil absorption of more than 300 ml/100g.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The amorphous silica particle according to Claim 1, wherein the maximum value of $\Delta V_p/\Delta R_p$ is 30 mm³/nm·g⁻¹ or more in the pore distribution curve obtained by the benzene adsorption isotherm, wherein V_p is the pore volume [mm³/g] and R_p is the pore radius [nm]; and the pore peak radius is from 30 nm to 90 nm when the $\Delta V_p/\Delta R_p$ value is maximum.

Claims 3-5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The amorphous silica particle according to Claim 1, wherein the oil absorption is more than 320 ml/100g.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The amorphous silica particle according to Claim 1, having an OI1 that is 9.5 min/100g or less.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The amorphous silica particle according to Claim 1, having an OI2 that is 1.2 or less.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a chemical adsorbing agents agent, the method comprising:

blending the silica particles according to Claim 1 with a resin.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): An adsorbent for pharmaceuticals and/or agrochemicals, comprising the amorphous silica particles according to Claim 1.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A matting agent, comprising the amorphous silica particles according to Claim 1.